

# Brief History of Lawrence County From 1885 to 1910

Many Items Taken from the Files of Big Sandy News for First 25 Years, and a Few Since That Time.

(The following brief references to events of long ago will no doubt prove interesting to a great many of our readers. A great deal of work was required to gather this matter from our files, but we believe our readers will desire to preserve this history.)

## 1885

Aug. 27—Hot, awfully hot. Arthur Preston of Graves Shoals is in town.

C. R. Lewis is teaching school on Lick Creek with an average of 70.

W. J. Crutcher and Lou Johnson of Peach Orchard spent Sunday in Louisa.

Conductor Williamson is one of the most accommodating men we ever met.

Rev. Capt. Music now runs a push boat between Louisa, the Point and the Mo. of Pond.

Our public school opened Monday with T. L. Moore as principal and Miss Cora Abbott Assistant.

Stanton Dean of Far West Kansas arrived in Louisa Saturday to visit the home of his boyhood days and to enjoy the breezes of our mountains.

The strike in the coal mines at Peach Orchard is ended.

G. M. McClure who has been spending summer vacation left Monday to resume his place as professor in the Deaf and Dumb Institution at Danville.

Sept. 3—Oil business on the boom. Broas of New York locates a well at Lower Laurel, about a mile above the Vinson well. Mr. Rigdon at the mouth of Blaine has struck oil and gas.

Prof. H. T. Lytleton conducted teachers institute in Pikeville.

Robert Crutcher died Saturday night after a stroke of paralysis.

Rev. D. P. Holt preached on Lick Creek Sunday.

Rev. C. H. Williamson, D. J. Burchett and wife attended camp meeting near Salsbery Sunday.

Mrs. Dr. Wroten and Mrs. Kate Ferguson are visiting Mrs. J. M. Davidson of Prestonsburg.

Misses Thura and Mary Burns and Mrs. Anna Smucker are visiting in Catlettsburg.

M. S. Burns, R. J. Prichard and A. J. Lott attended the Sullivan-McCaffrey fight Saturday.

Jim Marcum who has been on an extended trip through the east returned last week.

Sept. 10—G. F. Gallup of Catlettsburg was in town yesterday.

It is reported that oil is flowing in large quantities from the Mansfield well sunk in 1865 on Paint Creek.

Rev. I. B. Hutchinson and wife will celebrate their crystal wedding Sept. 14 in Catlettsburg.

Sept. 17—Born to the wife of Jesse Shannon a girl.

Wm. Shannon, John B. Clark and John Allen leave for Kentucky river. Work has ceased on the locks.

Sept. 24—We regret to know that Johnie Burns is sick with fever.

A few of our citizens are attending the Soldiers reunion in Ashland.

Nathan Crum of Inez and Fleming Webb of Glenwood have been appointed postmasters.

Riding parties are all the go among our Louisa ladies. Nothing is prettier than a pretty girl on a pretty horse.

Rev. J. H. Hager appointed to the Franklin circuit in Missouri conference.

Mr. Charles Culter and wife of Covington were recently visiting Judge John M. Rice. As Miss Amanda Rice, Mrs. Culter was long a popular lady in Louisa.

Miss Fannie Freese left Tuesday for Mount Notre Dame, Ohio, to attend school.

W. T. Young has a fine hammer made by Thomas Burchett of Peach Orchard.

Geo. P. Archer of Prestonsburg is attending E. & H. College, Emory, Va.

Rev. C. H. Williamson preached his farewell sermon at the M. E. Church Sunday.

Miss Dora Vinson left Wednesday for Nazareth, Ky., to attend school.

She was accompanied by Mrs. Vic Prichard and Miss Jennie Vinson, who will attend the Louisville Exposition.

G. B. Gray of Peach Orchard, made agent for Chattahoochee railway at Louisa. His assistant is Will Johnson. Ben Dixon goes to Peach Orchard as agent.

Oct. 1—Rev. Sheppard, Riffle, Williamson, Snead and Holt have gone to conference.

Col. Jay H. Northup and wife have gone to New York. The Colonel is attending a reunion of his old regiment the 84th New York.

Rev. H. M. Smith joins conference and sent to Roane C. H. W. Va.

Married, Oct. 11th, at the residence of R. F. Vinson, his daughter, Miss Jennie, to Mr. Arnoldus J. Garred, popular clerk of the Lawrence Circuit Court.

Louisa Fire Company organized with the following members: H. L. Ferguson, W. N. Sullivan, Geo. Billups, L. B. Ferguson, Geo. Justice, Will Billups, C. D. Norris, Milton Conley, W. A. Copley, Chas. Diamond, M. Hale, Sherman Pigg, Jesse Shannon, Wm. England, Sam Snead, R. C. McClure.

Oct. 22—Born, to the wife of Dunlap Waldeck, a boy; to the wife of W. T. Evans, a boy.

Surprise parties are the principal evening pastimes of our young folks. Mr. John Frazier died at his home on Mill Creek near Fort Gay.

Oct. 29—News from the oil region is very encouraging. A large territory near Flat Gap, Johnson county, has been leased to New York parties.

Drs. J. J. Gambill, N. T. Rice and A. T. Roberts have gone to Louisville to attend medical college.

Nov. 5—All the down boats go loaded with sorghum, beans and other produce.

The Chattahoochee railway is doing an excellent freight business. The afternoon train Wednesday was here an hour, loading.

Station Agent Gray is visiting in Illinois. George Hale is jerking lightning during his absence.

Capt. M. Freese is in command of the Ingomar.

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Garred return from New York and are serenaded by the Louisa Brass Band.

Skating rink opened in Drake's Hall. It will be managed by Milt Burns, which is a guarantee that there will be plenty of fun.

Nov. 12—The Frank Preston ran into a tree below Paintsville and badly damaged.

The Mountain Girl, with a circus on board, collided with the James W. Gaff below Cincinnati.

Nov. 19—Married, at the residence of Richard Meek, Miss Idella Meek to Mr. Minard Thompson.

Louisa has 26 stores, 3 blacksmith shops, one wagon shop, one cabinet shop, two meat stores, and one shoe shop, and the largest flouring mill in Eastern Kentucky.

The Rigdon well near the mouth of Blaine shot. The Chattahoochee ran a special train from Ashland for the occasion. The well was 2397 feet deep.

Nov. 26—Vice-President Hendricks died yesterday in Indianapolis.

Dec. 3—R. C. McClure and wife have returned from Cincinnati.

G. W. Castle has gone to Washington.

Judge Rice is off the bench this week. He went out to Hood Monday to see how rich he is.

Our village has been astir with commercial travellers this week. Duncan, Smith, Milstead, Murray, Lawton and other knights of the road have been with us, soliciting orders.

Married, Nov. 29th, by Rev. Lauck, Miss Nannie Marcum to Mr. Mack Baker.

Dec. 10—Mr. and Mrs. Ben Thomas, also John Thomas, return from Lebanon Ohio.

\$1000 subscribed to building a Baptist Church here.

Dec. 17—Senator and Mrs. Wallace and Mrs. Northup went to Cincinnati last week.

Prichard and Billups, our mighty hunters, have returned from the Blue Ridge bringing their trophies with them. Our table, however, is still bare of meat—it was too "dear."

Dec. 24—John Stewart is home from Ann Arbor for the holidays.

Mrs. R. F. Vinson has gone to Nazareth to visit Miss Dora.

Miss Inez Frank has gone to Indianapolis to visit the holidays.

Misses Gipsie Northup, Lizzie Burns and Nora Borders returned from Wesleyan College, Cincinnati, Saturday.

A substantial stile has been made across the public fence, opposite the front door of the court house.

Lewis Skaggs, the Lawrence county giant, was in town this week. He is 24 years old, is six feet and seven inches high, and weighs 306 pounds.

Dec. 31—On Monday last Mr. James A. Hughes of Louisa and Miss Belle Vinson of Krout's Station, were united in marriage. Immediately after the ceremony the happy couple left on the C. & O. for the exposition at New Orleans. Mr. Hughes is well known as one of our most energetic and prosperous business men. His bride is a young lady of beauty and worth, well known in this neighborhood, the place of her birth.

Mr. W. W. Marcum, a well known attorney of this place, was married Tuesday evening to Miss Mary E. Burgess of Peach Orchard.

Also on the same day, at the residence of Reed Roberts, Mr. Davis Holt to Miss Mary Lou Roberts.

Mr. Leo Frank offers for sale his residence and business property. Mr. Frank has been a resident of Louisa more than 20 years and in that time has made for himself an enviable reputation as an honest, enterprising citizen and business man.

Mr. and Mrs. Mont Goble and young Mont were visiting in Louisa Sunday.

Senator and Mrs. F. T. D. Wallace left for Frankfort Monday. Mrs. Wallace will spend the winter with her husband, and will by her many virtues and accomplishments, be a valuable acquisition to Frankfort society.

## 1886

Jan. 7—Miss Cora Abbott is teaching school in the Burns school house. Lee and Lass Garred returned to A. & M. College Monday.

Jno. B. Bromley, C. H. Hampton and Mordecai Williams of Catlettsburg were up Monday.

Jan. 14—Judge S. S. Savage of Boyd county announces candidacy for Congress.

James Hatcher of this place was recently married to Miss Vaughan of Peach Orchard.

G. W. Chandler of Georges Creek, struck on head by falling timber and killed.

Jan. 21—M. E. Mann of Massachusetts opens private school at Horseford.

Jan. 28—We are pleased to notice in the Frankfort papers that Senator Wallace is always at his place and looking to the interests of his constituents.

Feb. 4—At the conclusion of the service at the M. E. Church Sunday, Mr. V. T. Pierson was presented with an elegant silver watch. Mr. Pierson and family left Louisa Monday for Washington and Florida.

Feb. 11—First meeting of the Chattanooga circle at Col. Northup's.

Feb. 18—Born, to the wife of G. W. Gannell, a boy.

Hon. Z. C. Vinson revenue collector, was in town Saturday.

Attorneys attending circuit court: L. T. Moore, T. R. Brown, R. C. Burns, Catlettsburg; W. C. Ireland and J. F. Hager, Ashland; Jas. Goble, Prestonsburg; J. S. Patton, Inez; G. W. Skaggs, Blaine; B. H. Conley, Flat Gap.

Feb. 25—Martin, Johnson and Crutcher of Peach Orchard spent Sunday in town.

R. C. McClure has sold his grocery store to Wm. Dorsett.

B. F. Thomas is preparing to build a residence in the upper part of town. By connecting at Paintsville the Ingomar and Frank Preston made daily trips to Pikeville last week.

Mar. 4—This office has a new sign from the studio of W. O. Johnson.

Ed. S. Hughes has returned and taken a position with Jas. A. Hughes & Co.

Married, Feb. 10, Mr. G. W. Peck and Miss Maggie See.

We are informed that the Chattahoochee R. R. will be extended to White House where there is a large vein of canal coal.

Mar. 11—The brass band was out Monday night and furnished some good music. The band is improving rapidly.

Mar. 15—A masquerade mite will be given at Drake's Hall Friday night.

More strikes are prevailing in this country now than ever before at one time.

Dr. J. W. Swetnam of Peach Orchard has been suffering some time with a broken leg.

April 1—Mr. John D. Littlejohn of Cassville was in town yesterday.

April 8—Married on the 31st ult. Mr. Hiram Bloss to Miss Mollie Berry. R. H. Weddington and daughter Miss Daisy of Prestonsburg spent Sunday and Monday in Louisa.

April 15—D. C. Spencer has opened a restaurant on Main Cross street.

April 29—The Enterprise Block is being painted by Wm. Sullivan.

F. F. Freese, H. T. and Joe Lytleton returned from the falls of Blaine Tuesday with a fine string of fish.

Jesse Shannon, T. J. Snyder and Henry Sammons left Monday for Englewood, Kansas.

May 6—Dr. H. O. Cease sprained his thumb badly while trying to ride a bicycle.

May 13—At a May party given at the residence of Mr. G. F. Johnson, Miss Little Ferguson was chosen May Queen and Misses Willie Laucke and Willie Burgess First and Second Maids.

May 20—Died in Louisa May 12th at the residence of C. D. Norris, Judge H. W. Norris.

June 3—Guager John Rice has returned from a trip to Catlettsburg. John is engaged with the Nickel Base Ball nine of that city for the season and has been doing some good playing.

June 10—Miss Emma Johns, Mrs. Annie Schacker, Mrs. W. S. Harkins and Mrs. P. Harmon of Prestonsburg passed up on the train last week.

James McConnell passed up Monday enroute for Tus.

June 24—Louisa social circles have been quite gay during the past few days. Our village has been brightened with the presence of several beautiful young ladies from our neighboring towns, and they with our pretty lasses, have about distracted our boys. On Monday night a very pleasant dancing party was given at Drake's Hall, which was attended by several couples. Tuesday evening quite a number of belles and beaux called at Major Burchett's and spent a pleasant hour with Miss Chubbie and her guests, Miss Poage and Henderson.

July 1—Mr. M. V. Graham has removed to Catlettsburg and is now in charge of the Alger House.

July 8—There is no use to send abroad for a painter when we have as good a workman as Will Sullivan.

July 15—W. O. Johnson is an applicant for an appointment at West Point.

July 22—Jas. H. Marcum (Pud) sentenced to death for murder of Fisher Marcum.

July 29—The Chattahoochee Camp Meeting began the 23rd.

Motion for new trial overruled in Marcum case and Friday, Oct. 22, fixed for the day of execution.

Aug. 26—Socials at the homes of Major Burchett and Mrs. Hatcher have materially contributed to the enjoyment of the young folks this week.

John Littlejohn, an old type in this office, pokes his head in and smiles on us like an autumn sunbeam, occasionally.

Sept. 16—Born to J. W. Rice and wife last Friday, a daughter—Carrie Abbott.

Sept. 23—R. C. McClure, wife and little daughter, while on their way to Garred Chapel Sunday, narrowly escaped getting seriously injured by the buggy going over an embankment.

Sept. 30—Eliworth Norris, Dr. Joe Bussey and Wm. Remmel attended the Exposition at Cincinnati.

Oct. 7—The latest addition to Milt Burns' museum is a curious green snake captured by Squire Lake McGuire.

Oct. 14—Ed Kirker and Coon Walts were in town this week.

Work on the Baptist Church started. Col. Breckinridge and Judge Wall spoke in Louisa.

Nov. 4—Prof. George and Dr. Ben McClure, with their brides, arrive in Louisa for a visit to relatives. On Oct. 26th Prof. George was married to Miss Carrie Jasper of Nicholasville, and Dr. Ben to Miss Hattie Farris of Danville.

Nov. 11—In the list of pupils of Miss Hannah Moore we note the following: Hermia Northup, Nannie Freese, Mattie Riggs, Mary Vinson, Lilly Caperton, Stella Lettingwell, Lou Vinson, Kittle Wroten, Lizzie Atkins, Addie Burchett, Myrtle Elswick, Ethel O'Brien, Charlotte Freese, Sadie Marion, Lizzie Shannon, Edith Marcum, May Arnett, Belle Burgess, May Bell Elswick, Fannie Strachan, Maggie Atkins, Ida Holt, Maggie O'Brien, Alissa Abbott, Maude Wallace, Mary Yates, Lucy Prichard, Minnie Abbott, Ella Cook, Sallie Freese, Emma Wood Northup, James Atkins, Fred Shannon, Robert Vinson, Henry Snyder, John Billups, Frank Marcum, Bascom Hale, Ben Lettingwell, Milt Riggs, John Burchett, Geiger Burchett, George Burgess, John Jones, Jamie Layne, Frank Johnson, Henry Jones, George Fulkerson, John Burns, Frank Jones Bob Bickel, Geo. Wroten, Willie Fulkerson, John Lackey, Frank Diamond, Charley Hays.

Dr. Wroten's pupils—Grace Eaves, Neva Stewart, Jetty Roffe, Viva Eaves, Ida Billups, Janie Vinson, Annis Johns, Fannie Goff, Maggie Yates, Belle Marcum, Jennie Murray, Minnie Stone, Homer Roffe, Miriam Hatcher, Grace Marcum, Lida Hale, Tennis Copley, Minerva Wilson, Willie Burgess, Etta Strachan, Beckie Vinson, Lizzie Diamond, Myrtle Chapman, Maria Waldeck, Belle Wooten, Florida Eaves, Phebe Northup, Olga Sammons, Cora Drennon, Minnie Davis, Vinnie Davis, Reba Lackey, Ernest Shannon, Ora Atkins, George Vinson, Frank Yates, Forrest Stewart, Mart Conley, Jay Vinson, Fred Marcum, Sam Freese, Sam Smith, Jeff Justice, Cam Layne, Richard Johnson, Geo. Waldeck, Lon Chambers.

G. W. Gannell & Co. open store in large brick near depot.

Nov. 18—Will Geiger of Ashland has accepted a position as salesman with J. A. Hughes.

Judge Archibald Borders died at his home near Peach Orchard on the 13th.

Nov. 25—M. F. Carter's house destroyed by fire and one of his little children burned to death.

Eight persons, including family of Jack Terman, poisoned at Rockville station on Tuesday.

Dec. 2—G. W. Chapman completed a four months school at Ferguson, W. Va.

Hon. H. H. Gambill of Blaine returned from Flemingsburg, where he took a lot of mules and horses.

Married on the 24th in Pikeville, Mr. Jas. Trimble of Catlettsburg to Miss Lizzie Hatcher.

Dec. 16—We hear some talk of a bridge being built between Louisa and Cassville, W. Va.

## 1887

Jan. 6—Tommy, little son of Prof. and Mrs. Lytleton, drowned Christmas night. The body was found several weeks later by Kenas Short, Jas. Pigg and Leander Cox about 12 miles below Louisa.

Jan. 20—A force of men is now working on the extension of the Chattahoochee from Richardson to Whitehouse. Col. Northup says the Chattahoochee will be built up Sandy valley and be connected with a road in Virginia just as soon as the work can be done.

Flem McHenry and Jack Cains have returned from a prospecting trip to Arkansas.

Married on Wednesday, Jan. 19th, at the residence of the bride's parents, by Rev. Dr. Williamson, Miss Thura Burns to Rev. Chester H. Williamson, pastor of the West Covington J. E. Church, and Miss Lizzie Burns to Mr. Lucien Johnson, of Ironton, Bookkeeper and civil engineer for the Great Western Mining and Manufacturing Co., Peach Orchard.

Jan. 27—Closing exercises in Miss Hannah Moore's room of Louisa school. Song, White Wings, School. Rec. Stay, stay at home, my heart. Rec. The Boys, Bob Bickel. Rec. New Year, Maggie O'Brien. Rec. The Baggage Smasher, George Burgess. Reading, Lou Vinson.

Rec. Over the Hill to the Poor House, Ida Holt.

Reading, Disappointment, John Burns. Rec. Twinkle, little star (modern version) Alissa Abbott.

Rec. The Scholar, Henry Snyder.

Rec. The Sword Song, Hermia Northup.

Rec. The Sword Song, Mattie Wallace. Reading, Willie Fulkerson.

Rec. Children, Sadie Marion.

Rec. About Ben Adam, Mary Yates.

Rec. Lou and Kittle, Stella Lettingwell.

Rec. Custard and Mustard, Lucy Prichard.

Rec. Maiden Fair, Charlotte Freese.

Rec. The Old Woman, Geo. Wroten Jr.

Rec. Grand Pa, Ella Cook.

Rec. Find a Way or Make it, Fred Shannon.

Rec. Prince's Feather, Sallie Freese.

Rec. Managing a Mule, Milt Riggs.

Rec. Miss Edith Makes It Pleasant, Kittle Wroten.

Rec. Flying Jim's Last Leap, Nannie Freese.

the White House extension. M. F. Garred has the contract of grading the road.

C. M. Holbrook, of Blaine, who only a short time ago lost his wife and infant child, died on the 12th.

Feb. 24—A copy of a new paper, The District Review, published at Ravenswood, W. Va., by Revs. S. F. McClung and B. F. Gosling, has been received.

R. M. Ferrill and W. M. Connolly of Pikeville are improving their dwellings. Robert Burchett is doing the painting.

March 10—The County Commissioners, Messrs. John Hays Nelson Sparks and Wm. Christian, held court here Monday and Tuesday.

March 31—Mr. A. G. Rice of Centralia, Mo., and Miss Mary C. Garred of Stone House were married last evening at the bride's home.

Miss Jock Carey of Stone House, Miss Martha Roberts of Smoky Valley, Miss Lizzie Peck of Peck's Station, and Miss Josie Vaughan of Prestonsburg are attending Dr. Wroten's school.

April 7—During the month ending April 1, the following pupils were absolutely perfect in the following studies: In orthography, Forrest Stewart and Mart Conley; in geography, Mart Conley and Miss Mattie Goff; in mental arithmetic, George Vinson. Sam Strachan and Mart Conley.

Henry Sammons has been appointed Town Marshal.

April 14—Mr. James Billups and bride, nee Miss Alice Prichett, arrived here Tuesday from Gallipolis, Ohio, where they were married Sunday, at the bride's home. "Jim" is a model young man, and we wish him all the prosperity and happiness which he deserves.

April 28—Pud Marcum was hanged Friday afternoon, April 28th.

George Waldeck, Cam Layne and Richard Johnson left Monday for the breaks of this river, where they will join the three C's Engineer Corps.

May 5—The value of property in the town of Louisa, as given to the Assessor, is \$225,216.

May 19—Trains will soon be running to Whitehouse.

A horse race took place near Louisa Monday.

A considerable amount of oil is being pumped from the first well drilled on Blaine.

May 19—Mrs. Mary Hatcher died at her home in Cordova, Ill. April 27th.

On May 11th Rev. L. H. Suddith and Miss Lizzie Ferguson were united in marriage.

May 26—Louisa boasts of several new enterprises. A tin shop, a tailor shop and planing mill have just been added.

The young folks had a May party at the falls of Two Mile Saturday. Miss Hermia Northup was crowned May Queen.

June 9—Dr. Will Swetnam a son of Dr. H. S. Swetnam, was married to Miss Effie Green of Kansas recently.

Miss Jennie